644

HER MAJESTY THE LATE QUEEN MOTHER

P iv

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania E-G1

6144

Sisters of His Majesty King Zog I

RIGHT TO LEFT:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS NAFIE AND HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS SENIE

p. vi(a)

Sisters of His Majesty King Zog I

RIGHT TO LEFT:
THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES PRINCESS RUHIE (RUHIJE), PRINCESS MAXHIDE (MADJIDE) AND PRINCESS MUZEJEN (MYZEJEN).

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

644

THE ROYAL PALACE IN TIRANA

(facing p. 58)

TIRANA

this height have the appearance of a colorful checkerboard of the gods.

Tirana also has many modern boulevards, recently laid, equalling the cement boulevards of any cosmopolitan city, as well as all the modern conveniences that one finds in other capitals of the world.

In the large city park, music is provided every afternoon by the Royal Court Orchestra and where people promenade to the strains of Beethoven, Puccini, Strauss and Wagner.

In the center of Tirana is located the beautiful Royal Palace, lying in the midst of an immense, well-cared for garden. This garden is one of the show places of Tirana and has a large collection of rare flowers.

Also in the central part of the city in a vast square are to be found a group of modern and most convenient office buildings, wherein the various departments of the government—the Prime Minister's office, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for Interior Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of National Economy, the Ministry of Public Instructions, the Ministry of Public Works, the Parliament and others—are housed.

All foreign legations, except that of Great

Khamko, changed him from a wild, rapacious and almost incorrigible youth into an intelligent and judicious young man after the death of his father. Through her influential connections—she was related to many well known families of Albania—she exercised her strength of character which gave to Ali Pasha everything that he was to have.

A modern magnificent example of Albanian womanhood was the mother of the present ruler. At the death of her husband, Sadié, daughter of Emin Bey Toptani, a member of one of the most illustrious and ruling families of Central Albania, was left with her ten-year-old son, now King of the Albanians, and six daughters. Without counting the costs and led on by her courageous spirit, she assumed the leadership of the people of her adopted district of Mati and through her keen sense of judgment, resourcefulness and integrity and her instinctive knowledge of statescraft, she ably ruled the district while her son was away in school. She well merits the extravagant praise that she receives for she was no ordinary woman. Queen Mother Sadié displayed the highest qualities of character and purpose that were no less noble than those

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

644 of Olympias, the mother of Alexander the Great.

The late Queen Mother aided her people to an unlimited extent, without rest or pause. She showed marvelous ability of leadership in the darkest days of Albania. She earned the everlasting gratitude of the people. And today her resting place is one of veneration and pilgrimage.

After King Zog ascended the throne, the Queen Mother and her six daughters devoted themselves to helping their fellowmen. Of these six daughters, one is a widow, two others are married and the three remaining are single.

644 741 575 Before her death, the Queen Mother gave large donations and devoted her time towards the organization of women movements, charitable institutions, orphanages, hospitals and similar activities for the welfare of the Albanian people at large. It was this beloved Queen Mother and her daughter, Princess Senié, who were directly responsible for the creation and organization on a modern basis of the Albanian Red Cross. Also through the work of the Queen Mother and Princess Senié, the Albanian National Women's Society, the

ALBANIAN WOMEN

"Gruja Shqipëtare," came into existence in 1929, as the first woman's organization in Albania. This Society has branches throughout the country, not only with the object to educate the women and children and further the interests of womanhood, but also to donate clothing, food and warmth to the needy. The Queen Mother also encouraged the organization of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The Princesses Muzejen, Madjidé and Ruhijé are directly responsible and can justly be proud of the work they have done and are doing for the furtherance of the arts, music, sports and allied subjects. These three sisters of King Zog are active participants and patronesses of the National Union of Albanian Youth.

Princess Madjidé (Maxhidé), who takes a keen interest in sports, does much to further the interests and welfare of the Albanian youth. She has aptly been chosen as the patroness of the Royal Albanian Touring and Automobile Club.

The proper upbringing and education of their children occupies most of the time of the Princesses Adilé and Nafié, but they never

644 fail to contribute their assistance to whatever is being done for Albanian womanhood and youth.

Therefore, there is little wonder that the six sisters of King Zog are so well-beloved by all Albanians.

562 The moral code of the Albanians is sharply drawn in respect to their women. It is considered a very grave breach of etiquette to make them the object of jokes or stories. Any unfaithfulness on the part of Albanian women is very, very rare. However, under certain specified reasons, as provided by law, divorces are possible both in the Moslem and Christian religions.

814 562 The intellectual occupations also attract the attention of Albanian women. It is thus that Albanian erudition is honored with the presence of a woman, Dora d'Istra, who has written numerous volumes that are authorities, such as "La Suisse allemande et l'Ascension du Moenich," "La Vie monastique dans l'Eglise Orientale," "Les Femmes en Orient," etc. This capable writer is an ardent feminist, in the sensible use of the word and she has done much in directing the Albanian women to intellectual freedom.